



April 21, 2006

Dear Prospective Bidder:

Attaining education and employment are critical issues that youth in the juvenile justice system face. Addressing these issues is a challenge at both the local and state levels, particularly when youth are transferred back to their communities from state juvenile correctional facilities. It is difficult to provide these youth with the marketable skills needed to compete in the workforce.

The Ohio Department of Youth Services (ODYS), the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and the Workforce Investment Act Administrative Entities for Areas: 3 (Cuyahoga County), 11 (Franklin County), 13 (Hamilton County) and 6 (Stark County), pledge to work together with communities and providers to develop services and support programs for youth committed to ODYS. Up to \$860,000 has been made available to vendors for providing services in these four counties. To address this need, ODYS and ODJFS have developed the Project **REENTRY** Request for Proposal.

The goals for participating youth are to: 1) Enter and remain in the labor force; 2) Stay in school or pursue workforce training/post-secondary education; 3) Develop appropriate family, peer and/or adult mentor relationships; 4) Parent effectively and prevent unwanted pregnancies; and, 5) Move out of poverty.

Bidders must identify a full range of services. These services are expected to be delivered within DYS institutions, while youth are on parole and for three months after discharge from parole supervision. The critical component to the success of this project is the ability to link the young offenders with a mentor and/or job coach from faith or community-based organizations. Such a relationship will increase pro-social modeling, decrease antisocial attitudes, reduce antisocial peer contacts and improve self-management, vocational and employment skills.

Applicants need to demonstrate knowledge of reentry services for offenders and their families. They must also be able to ensure collaboration with local agencies, organizations and individuals as part of this project. Finally, applicants must also ensure the safety of the youth, family and community.

All projects, activities, technical assistance plans, and proposed local awards described throughout this Request for Proposal are contingent upon funding availability and final funding approval.

A Bidder's Conference has been scheduled for all potential respondents on May 1, 2006 from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. The Bidder's Conference will be held in the Jack Reil Conference Room located at the ODYS, 51 North High Street, Columbus. This Bidder's Conference will provide you an opportunity to ask questions and get clarification on the RFP and related process. All questions and answers from the Bidder's Conference will be posted to the websites listed below by Friday, May 5, 2006. A Bidder's Conference Registration Form is attached.

If you would like a hard copy of the RFP sent to you, please contact Leanne Skeen, ODYS, at (614) 728-3485.

To obtain a copy of the Request for Proposal, you can visit the following websites:

- Ohio Family and Children First – www.ohiofcf.org/news.asp
- Ohio Department of Youth Services – www.dys.ohio.gov

Please make sure to print all documents.

We hope you will carefully review the enclosed information and choose to submit a proposal.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Stickrath
Director
Ohio Department of Youth Services

Barbara Riley
Director
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services



PROJECT **REENTRY**

BIDDER'S CONFERENCE

Registration Form



A Bidder's Conference has been scheduled for all potential respondents to the Project **REENTRY** Request for Proposal (RFP). This event will provide you an opportunity to ask questions and get clarification on the RFP and related process.

It is anticipated that important information will be shared in this forum. All potential applicants are encouraged to attend. We recommend that you identify one or more representative(s) of your collaborative to attend this Bidder's Conference and take advantage of the information that will be presented. All questions and answers from the Bidder's Conference will be posted on both the Ohio Department of Youth Services and the Ohio Family and Children First websites by Friday, May 5, 2006.

The Bidder's Conference will be held as follows:

Date: May 1, 2006
Time: 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Place: Jack Reil Conference Room
Ohio Department of Youth Services
51 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

The tentative agenda for the Bidder's Conference is as follows:

1. Opening Remarks
2. What We Know About Reentry
3. RFP Walk Through
4. Questions and Answers

To reserve a space at the Bidder's Conference, complete the following registration form on the next page and return it no later than 12:00 p.m. on Friday, April 28, 2006 to:

Leanne Skeen
ODYS
51 North High Street
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: 614-728-3485
Fax: 614-728-4680



PROJECT REENTRY BIDDER'S CONFERENCE



Registration Form

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

Agency/County: _____ Number attending: _____

Please identify any questions you may have about the content and/or process of the RFP in the areas delineated below. This will help us prepare and focus the Bidder's Conference. Attach additional pages as needed.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS – Comments/Questions

TARGET POPULATION - Comments/Questions

SCOPE OF WORK– Service/Program Development

FINANCIAL/BUDGETARY/MATCH REQUIREMENT – Comments/Questions

INFORMATION and EVALUATION – Comments/Questions

OTHER